and programmes unsuitable for children must not be carried in the cable service at times when the largest numbers of children are viewing. The Government also issued an advisory to all the satellite television channels and Doordarshan to strictly adhere to the above provisions of the Code.

FM Channels operating in Bihar

†1425. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of FM Channels being operated in Bihar;

(b) the total area covered by them;

(c) whether Government will start some more FM Channels in Bihar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Presently, three 6 kW FM transmitters are functioning at Patna, Sasaram and Purnea with an area coverage of 24.9%. Moreover, under Phase-II of the private FM broadcasting policy, there has been one successful bidder each in the two districts of Muzaffarpur and Patna for operation of private FM channels.

(c) and (d) Five new 10 kW FM transmitters are proposed during the Tenth Plan at Banka, Gaya, Madhubani, Motihari and Patna. However, implementation of the above schemes is subject to approval, funds availability and sanction of the required staff for operation and maintenance purposes.

Charges by cable operators

1426. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Central Government to fix uniform rate that has to be charged from the customers by cable operators in the Metros, District Head Quarters and Rural areas and also to fix the entertainment tax to be charged on cable operators and also to decide on the competent authority for the collection of Entertainment Tax;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.